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Ttial: Need to fix cut off marks at 35% for SC/ST students for B.E. and B. Tech courses in AICTE.

SHRIMATI K. MARAGATHAM (KANCHEEPURAM): Thank you hon. Deputy Speaker Sir for allowing me to speak in 'Zero Hour'.

I once again pay my gratitude to my Leader, People's former Chief Minister, Hon. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma because of whom I am here today.

Sir, I wish to raise an important issue regarding the welfare of SC/ST students. In 2011-12, the All India Council of Technical Education laid the norms for first year admission in B.E & B. Tech., as 45 per cent for general category students and 40 per cent for SC/ST students, whereas the Government of Tamil Nadu under the able leadership of hon. Amma gives admission for SC/ST Students at 35 per cent.

Hon. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma has always been a moral support to the SCs and STs for their welfare by giving various schemes like:

1. Allotting Rs 6,108.60 crore, an all time high for the SC Sub-Plan in 2013-14 Tamil Nadu Budget;
2. Rs 500 for girl students from 3rd standard to 5th standard;
3. Rs 1000 for 6th standard girl students; and
4. Rs 1,500 for girl students from 7th standard to 8th standard to boost women

education.

By these schemes, Tamil Nadu will become India's most prosperous and progressive State by 2023; and Tamil Nadu will be No. 1 in Human Development Index in our Country.

In spite of various legal steps taken by the Tamil Nadu Government under the guidance of hon. Amma, the AICTE has so far not responded and it is continuing 40 per cent for SCs & STs till date. An SLP has also been filed by the Tamil Nadu Government in the Supreme Court regarding this.

Hon. Amma had met the hon. Prime Minister on 3rd June, 2014 regarding the injustice to SC/ST students.

In this regard, I request the hon. Prime Minister and the Central Government to look into this matter and direct the AICTE to fix 35 per cent as pass mark for admission in B.E. & B. Tech., for SC/ST students. Thank You.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER:

Dr. Kirit P. Solanki is allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shrimati K. Maragatham.